## **NEWS RELEASE**



Date: February 23, 2007

**District 7:** Los Angeles and Ventura Counties

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## Ceremony Celebrates the Opening of the State Route 57/State Route 60 Direct Connector

**Diamond Bar** – The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) held an opening ceremony at the South Coast Air Quality Management District (AQMD) building today to celebrate the opening of the State Route 57/State Route 60 High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) direct connector.

The \$78 million project, which began in spring of 2003, links the HOV lanes on both SR-57 and SR-60 in the cities of Diamond Bar and Industry. A new collector road was also added at the Grand Avenue on-ramp, allowing motorists to enter directly to either SR-57 or SR-60.

"This is the second HOV direct connector to be built in our District," said Douglas R. Failing, District 7 Director covering Los Angeles and Ventura counties and Master of Ceremonies. "HOV lanes are one of our best weapons in fighting congestion and have been shown to save users at least one minute per mile in peak hours, benefiting non HOV users with reduced congestion, improved air quality and enhanced fuel efficiency," he added.

Also present were Assemblywoman Nell Soto, Assemblyman Bob Huff, Diamond Bar Mayor Steve Tye and Metro Board member John Fasana.

The HOV Direct Connector project will improve safety and capacity, help to relieve congestion and aid in the efficient movement of goods and services along the State Route 57/State Route 60 Corridor. Minor work still remains on the project and is expected to complete in spring of this year.

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